GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:533
ANSWERED ON:23.02.2001
CONFERENCE OF STATE I B MINISTERS
RAM SHAKAL;SUBODH MOHITE

Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether a conference of the State Ministers for Information and Broadcasting was held recently;

(b) if so, the details thereof ; and

(c) the matters on which general agreement was reached?

Answer

The MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (Smt. SUSHMA SWARAJ)

a) The 24th Conference of State/ UT Ministers of Information and Cinematography was held on 21st January, 2001.

b) & c) The details are at Annexure `A`

ANNEXURE `A`

ANNEXURE REFFERED TO IN REPLY TO PART (b) AND (c) OF LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 533 FO 23.02.2001

The Conference was inaugurated by hon`ble Prime Minister of India andattended by 2 Chief Ministers, 13 Ministers of Information and Public Relations of different States, one Lt. Governor and official level delegations from States/ Union Territories.

2. The issues discussed at the conference were, inter alia, action taken on 23rd SIMCON, developments in the field of Broadcasting, changes in the Cable Television Network Act, needs voiced by states in broadcasting, information and film sectors, need to curb violence and obscenity in films, issue of video piracy, rationalization of the existing entertainment tax structure to make entertainment sector more vibrant and the need to bring cinema on to the Concurrent List.

3. It was decided to set up a Committee to go into the issues related to the entertainment sector. This Committee will be headed by Union Information & Broadcasting Minister and will have the MOS (I&B) as the Vice-Chairman.Other members of the Committee are 9 Members of Information representing differentparts of the country. It was also agreed to curb the tendency to depict violence and obscenity in films and to ensure that Cable Network Regulations (Amendment) Act isenforced. It was agreed to make efforts to cover the remote areas with Doordarshan and All India Radio network. All the states agreed to provide special emphasis to observance of the year 2001 as the Year of Women`s Empowerment.